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► To cite this version:

Frédéric Gouaisbaut, Yann Blanco, Jean-Pierre Richard. Robust sliding mode control of nonlinear systems with delay: A design via polytopic formulation. *International Journal of Control*, 2004, 77 (2), pp.206-215. 10.1080/00207170310001633286 . inria-00266509

HAL Id: inria-00266509

<https://inria.hal.science/inria-00266509>

Submitted on 23 Mar 2008

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Robust Sliding Mode Control of Nonlinear Systems with Delay: A Design via Polytopic Formulation.

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keywords : nonlinear time delay systems, sliding mode control, LMIs.

Abstract

This paper outlines the possibility to control nonlinear uncertain systems with single, possibly time-varying state-delay. These systems are submitted to additive perturbations (possibly nonvanishing). The control is of sliding mode type and the sliding surface is designed to maximize the calculable set of delays which do not destabilize the relay-delay system. The way to deal with the nonlinear parts of the model relies on a polytopic formulation, i.e. a decomposition into a nonlinear combination of linear models, whose weighting coefficients satisfy a convex property. The conditions for the existence of the sliding regime are studied by using both a Lyapunov Krasovskii functional and a Lyapunov-Razumikhin function. The optimization procedure for the choice of the sliding surface is expressed in terms of LMIs. An example illustrates the proposed method.

1 Introduction

Control of time delay systems is a problem of present interest since the delay phenomenon is a natural aspect of the dynamic processes in many engineering fields (see for example [Gopalsamy, 1992]) and can induce instability or poor performances. For the

last decade, several works have proposed criteria for the robust stabilization of time delay systems: for linear models with *parameter uncertainties*, see [Li & Decarlo, 2003, Niculescu *et al.*, 1998, Kolmanovskii *et al.*, 1999, Nguang, 1998] (Lyapunov-Krasovski approach leading to LMIs) and [Dambrine *et al.*, 1995] (comparison approach). The resulting control laws are of continuous, often memoryless, feedback type. The results concerning robustness with respect to *external disturbances* rely on either H_∞ design (see [Li & De Souza, 1996, Nguang, 1998] and references therein) or structural approaches, such as disturbance decoupling using models over rings (see [Conte & Perdon, 1995] and references therein).

However, in the nonlinear case, a few approaches have been investigated. In [Goubet-Bartholoméüs *et al.*, 1997] the comparison method by vector norms is interesting for the stability problem but raises computational problems for the controller design. In [Sira-Ramirez & Angulo-Nunez, 1998], the results of passivity-based control were extended to the case of nonlinear delay systems. Recently, approaches based on the input-output linearization have been used to asymptotically stabilize nonlinear time delay systems. Two main approaches have been proposed.

First of all, [Moog *et al.*, 2000] extended the structural approach (i.e. ring models) to nonlinear models. In the other case (see [Germani *et al.*, 1996]), the results are based on an extension of the Lie derivative approach to time delay systems. Nevertheless, both controllers, interesting in theory, are difficult to apply, because all of them assume that the delay is constant and known.

The *Sliding Mode Control* (SMC) approach [Utkin, 1991], based on the use of discontinuous control laws (relays), is known to be an efficient alternative way to tackle many challenging problems of robust stabilization. For instance, an appropriate sliding mode strategy can achieve stabilization by “dominating” nonlinear terms and additive disturbances, provided some appropriate “matching conditions” hold (roughly speaking, the disturbances must belong to the space spanned by the input function). However, the combination of delay phenomenon with relay actuators makes the situation much more complex (see the survey paper [Richard, 2003]) : designing a sliding controller without taking delays into account may lead to unstable or chaotic behaviors or, at least, results in highly chattering behaviors [Dambrine *et al.*, 1998]. Even if the general framework of differential inclusions has been proposed in this case [Kolmanovskii & Myshkis, 1999], the concrete control results are not so numerous [Bonnet *et al.*, 1998, Choi, 1999, Gouaisbaut *et al.*, 2001, Gouaisbaut *et al.*, 1999, Koshkouei & Zinober, 1996, Luo & De la Sen, 1992, Shyu & Yan, 1993]. In [Bonnet *et al.*, 1998], the considered systems have output delay and relay actuators, but the study is limited to first order processes. In [Choi, 1999, Shyu & Yan, 1993], the authors have considered linear model and constant delay.

The purpose of this paper is to extend the SMC approach of linear time delay systems to nonlinear ones. To this end, a polytopic formulation of the nonlinear systems is introduced [Takagi & Sugeno, 1985, Tanaka *et al.*, 1998]. The uncertainties are modelled as additive and possibly nonvanishing perturbations. Two kinds of delays are considered : firstly, constant and known, then varying and unknown.

The presentation is organized as follows: Section 2

is devoted to preliminary results (transformation of the original system into regular form) and formulation of the problem. Subsection 3.1 develops a sliding mode controller by means of an LMI approach when the delay is supposed to be constant. Then, in Subsection 3.2, we assume that the delay is time-varying and unknown. By a Razumikhin approach, a variable structure controller is investigated so to insure the asymptotic stability of the closed loop system. Section 4 gives an illustrative example.

Notations

In this paper, we consider the following nonlinear system with a possibly time varying delay $\tau = \tau(t) \geq 0$:

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x}(t) = f(x_t(\theta)) + g(x(t))u(t) + p(x_t, t), \\ x(t) = \phi(t) \text{ for } t \in [-\tau, 0], \end{cases} \quad (1.1)$$

The following notations are used:

$$x \in \mathbb{R}^n, x_t(\theta) = x(t - \theta) \text{ for } \theta \in [0, \tau(t)],$$

f is a non constant $n \times n$ vector field (possibly perturbed) depending on the function x_t ; $g(x) = [g_1(x) \dots g_m(x)]$ is a non constant $n \times m$ control field, where $g_i(x)$, $i \in \{1..m\}$ are sufficiently smooth vectors depending on $x(t)$;

$u \in \mathbb{R}^m$ is the control vector and p , representing all the neglected dynamics, is an exogenous signal. The initial condition ϕ is a piecewise continuous function. For vectors $e = (e_1, \dots, e_n)^T \in \mathbb{R}^n$ and matrices $M = (m_{ij}) \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$, the norm 2 is used $\|e\| = \sqrt{e^T e}$. For a symmetric matrix M , $M > 0$ (resp. $M < 0$) means that M is positive (resp. negative) definite. $\lambda_{\min}(M)$ (resp. $\lambda_{\max}(M)$) stands for the largest (resp. the minus) eigenvalue of M .

For smooth n -vector fields, $f(x)$, $g(x)$, $[f, g](x) \triangleq \frac{\partial g(x)}{\partial x} f(x) - \frac{\partial f(x)}{\partial x} g(x)$, (Lie bracket), generates a vector field and the Ad operator is defined by

$$Ad_f^0 g(x) \triangleq g(x), \dots, Ad_f^k g(x) \triangleq [f, Ad_f^{k-1} g](x).$$

Finally, I_r denotes the set of the integers $\{1, \dots, r\}$, and \mathbb{N}^* is the set of strictly positive integers.

assumptions

$$A1) \text{ rank}(g(x)) = m$$

Note that in the contrary case, it is possible to use

a linear static feedback so to recover this assumption (see Appendix B).

A2) The perturbation satisfies the generalized matching conditions [Perruquetti *et al.*, 1997] :

$$p \in Vect(Ad_{g_i}^k g_j(x), i \in I_m, j \in I_m, k \in \{1.. \infty\}). \quad (1.2)$$

A3) There exists a distribution Δ of dimension m which satisfies $H1, H2, H3$ with $d = m$. (see Appendix B)

2 formulation of the problem

Our goal in this section is to transform the system (1.1) into :

$$\begin{cases} \dot{z}_1 = \sum_{i=1}^r h_i(z_t) \left(\begin{bmatrix} A_{i11} & A_{i12} \end{bmatrix} z(t) + \begin{bmatrix} A_{di11} & A_{di12} \end{bmatrix} z(t - \tau) \right), \\ \dot{z}_2 = f_2^R(z_t) + G_2^R(z)u(t) + p^R(z_t), \end{cases} \quad (2.1)$$

where z, p^R represent the state and the perturbation in the new basis, $G_2^R(z)$ is a nonsingular matrix, and the $h_i(z_t), i \in I_r$ satisfy the *convex sum property*:

$$\sum_{i=1}^r h_i(z_t) = 1, h_i(z_t) \geq 0, i \in I_r. \quad (2.2)$$

The transformation is achieved in two steps, as described in the following.

2.1 Step One: Regular Form

Lemma 1 *Under assumptions A1, A2, A3, the system (1.1) can be transformed into :*

$$\begin{cases} \dot{z}_1 = f_1^R(z_{1t}, z_{2t}), \\ \dot{z}_2 = f_2^R(z_{1t}, z_{2t}) + G_2^R(z)u(t) + p^R(z_t), \end{cases} \quad (2.3)$$

where $G_2^R(z)$ is a nonsingular matrix, $z_1 \in \mathbb{R}^{n-m}$, $z_2 \in \mathbb{R}^m$.

Proof. As vector field $g(x)$ does not depend on x_t but on the instantaneous states $x(t)$, we can apply the procedure of the Appendix B to system (1.1). ■

2.2 Step Two: Polytopic Formulation

We suppose that the first subsystem can be factorized into the form :

$$\begin{cases} \dot{z}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} A_{11}(z_t) & A_{12}(z_t) \end{bmatrix} z(t) + \begin{bmatrix} A_{d11}(z_t) & A_{d12}(z_t) \end{bmatrix} z(t - \tau), \\ \dot{z}_2 = f_2^R(z_{1t}, z_{2t}) + G_2^R(z)u(t) + p^R(z_t). \end{cases} \quad (2.4)$$

We now assume that :

A4) Decomposition (2.4) holds with bounded matrices $A_{1j}(z_t)$ and $A_{d1j}(z_t), j = 1, 2$.

A5) The perturbation $p^R(z_t)$ is bounded by a known functional Ψ (possibly constant) as follows :

$$\|p^R\| < \Psi(z_t).$$

Under these assumptions, the first sub-system can be written under a polytopic formulation enhancing the bounds of the matrices $A_{1j}(z_t)$ and $A_{d1j}(z_t)$ (see [Blanco & Richard, 2000] for a complete proof). Indeed, there exists $r \in \mathbb{N}^*$, weighting functions $h_i(z_t), i \in I_r$ and r constant matrices $A_{i1k}, A_{di1k}, i \in I_r, k \in I_2$ such that the first sub-system of (2.3) can be written as :

$$\begin{cases} \dot{z}_1 = \sum_{i=1}^r h_i(z_t) \left(\begin{bmatrix} A_{i11} & A_{i12} \end{bmatrix} z(t) + \begin{bmatrix} A_{di11} & A_{di12} \end{bmatrix} z(t - \tau) \right), \end{cases} \quad (2.5)$$

where the functions h_i satisfy the convex sum property.

This part can be summarized in the following lemma :

Lemma 2 *Under assumptions (A1-A5), the system (1.1) can be written as (2.1).*

3 Choice of the surface

In order to design in sliding mode controller, let us choose a sliding surface

$$s(z) = z_2 + K z_1. \quad (3.1)$$

System (2.4) is equivalent to :

$$\begin{cases} \dot{z}_1 = \sum_{i=1}^r h_i(z_t) \begin{pmatrix} E_i z_1(t) + E_{di} z_1(t - \tau) \\ + A_{i12} s(z) + A_{di12} s(t - \tau(t)) \end{pmatrix} \\ \dot{s}(z) = \xi(z_t) + G_2^R(z) u(t) + p^R(z_t), \end{cases} \quad (3.2)$$

with $E_i = A_{i11} - A_{i12}K$, $E_{di} = A_{di11} - A_{di12}K$ and

$$\begin{cases} \xi(z_t) = \xi_1(z_t) + \xi_2(z_t), \\ \xi_1(z_t) = f_2^R(z_{1t}, z_{2t}), \\ \xi_2(z_t) = K \sum_{i=1}^r h_i(\cdot) \left[\sum_{j=1}^2 A_{ji1} z_j(t) + A_{dji1} z_j(t - \tau) \right] \end{cases} \text{ with}$$

4 The case of a known and constant delay

4.1 Asymptotic stabilization

Theorem 1 *Let Λ be a stable matrix and consider a $P > 0$, $P = P^T$ such that $\Lambda^T P + P\Lambda = -I$. Under assumptions (A1 – A5), and if there exists two symmetric positive definite matrices S, R and a matrix $W \in R^{m \times (n-m)}$ such that*

$$\begin{bmatrix} X_i + X_i^T + R & M_i \\ M_i^T & -R \end{bmatrix} < 0, i \in I_r, \quad (4.1)$$

with $X_i = A_{i11}S - A_{i12}W$, $M_i = A_{di11}S - A_{di12}W$, then the control law

$$\begin{cases} u(t) = -G^R(z)^{-1} \left(\xi(z_t) - \Lambda s + m(z_t) \frac{Ps}{\|Ps\|} \right), \\ m(z_t) = m_1 + \Psi(z_t), \\ m_1 > 0, \end{cases} \quad (4.2)$$

makes $x = 0$ asymptotically stable for (3.2) for all delays $\tau > 0$.

The sliding surface (3.1) is then defined by $K = WS^{-1}$.

Remark 1 *It is possible to deal with the case of unknown and possibly perturbed matrices A_{1j} and A_{d1j} ,*

*assuming that they are included in **known** bounded domains. Then, non matching uncertainties can be integrated in our model (2.1). Simulation of this case is given in Section 6.*

For such uncertainties, the numerical values of the functions h_i are unknown, but it is possible to use an upperbound of the norm of ξ . Control law (4.2) is then transformed into :

$$\begin{cases} u(t) = -G^R(z)^{-1} \left(\xi_1(z_t) - \Lambda s + m(z_t) \frac{Ps}{\|Ps\|} \right), \\ m(z_t) = m_1 + \Psi(z_t) + m_2(z_t), \\ m_1 > 0, \end{cases} \quad (4.3)$$

$$m_2(z_t) = \max_{i=1,r} \left\| K \left\{ \sum_{j=1}^2 A_{i1j} z_j(t) + A_{di1j} z_j(t - \tau) \right\} \right\|.$$

The proof of Theorem 1 will be achieved in three parts. We first prove the attractivity of the surface (with finite reaching time), then once in sliding motion (i.e. $s(z) = \dot{s}(z) = 0$), we show the asymptotic stability of the reduced system. Finally, we ensure that the system in closed loop cannot become unbounded in finite time.

Attractivity of the surface

Lemma 3 *Under assumptions (A1 – A5), if the LMIs (4.1) have a solution, the control (4.2) exists and makes the surface $s(z) = 0$ stable and globally attractive in finite time.*

Proof. Consider the function $V(t) = s^T(z)Ps(z)$. Its derivative along the trajectories of (3.2) with (4.2) is

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{V}(t) &< -s^T(z)s(z) - 2s^T(z)P(p^R(z) + m(z_t) \frac{Ps}{\|Ps\|}), \\ \dot{V}(t) &< -s(z)^T s(z) - 2m_1 \sqrt{\lambda_{\min}(P)} \sqrt{V}, \\ \dot{V}(t) &< -2m_1 \sqrt{\lambda_{\min}(P)} \sqrt{V}. \end{aligned} \quad (4.4)$$

This last inequality is known to prove the finite time convergence of (3.2) towards the surface $s = 0$ (see [Utkin, 1991]). ■

Stability of the reduced system

This subsection involves a Lyapunov-Krasovskii approach.

If we suppose that the system reaches the sliding surface at time t_0 , then once on the surface, the equations $s(z) = \dot{s}(z) = 0$ hold and for $t > t_0 + \tau$, the reduced system is driven by:

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{z}_1 = & \sum_{i=1}^r h_i(z_t) ((A_{i11}^i - A_{i12}^i K) z_1(t) \\ & + (A_{di11}^i - A_{di12}^i K) z_1(t - \tau)). \end{aligned} \quad (4.5)$$

Lemma 4 *The origin of the reduced system (4.5) is asymptotically stable if there exists $S > 0$, $R > 0$ and a matrix $W \in R^{m \times (n-m)}$ such that the LMI (4.1) has a solution.*

Proof. According to Theorem 3 (appendix A), the system :

$$\dot{z} = \sum_{i=1}^r h_i(z_t) (A_i z_1(t) + A_{di} z_1(t - \tau))$$

is asymptotically stable if there exists two symmetric positive definite matrices P and Q of $R^{(n-m) \times (n-m)}$ such that :

$$\begin{bmatrix} A_i^T P + P A_i + Q & P A_{di} \\ A_{di}^T P & -Q \end{bmatrix} < 0, i \in I_r.$$

Replacing A_i by $Z_i = (A_{i11} - A_{i12} K)$ and A_{di} by $N_i = A_{di11} - A_{di12} K$, we get

$$\begin{bmatrix} Z_i^T P + P Z_i + Q & P N_i \\ N_i^T P & -Q \end{bmatrix} < 0, i \in I_r.$$

With a view to get LMIs, we pre- and post- multiply by $\begin{bmatrix} S & 0 \\ 0 & S \end{bmatrix}$, where $S = P^{-1}$ and get :

$$\begin{bmatrix} S Z_i^T + Z_i S + R & N_i S \\ S N_i^T & -R \end{bmatrix} < 0, i \in I_r. \quad (4.6)$$

Finally, with the change of variables $W = K S$ and $R = S Q S$, (4.6) is equivalent to (4.1) which concludes the proof. ■

No escape in finite time

In this sub-section, we prove that the system (3.2) cannot become unbounded in finite time, for $t \in [0, t_0 + \tau]$. It relies on the following Lyapunov-Krasovskii functional :

$$V(x_t) = V_1(x_t) + V_2(x_t),$$

$$V_1(x_t) = x(t)^T P x(t),$$

$$V_2(x_t) = \int_{t-\tau}^t x(\theta)^T S x(\theta) d\theta,$$

which is also used in Appendix B.

The derivative of V along the solutions of (3.2) leads to :

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{V}(z_t) = & X^T(t) M(\cdot) X(t) \\ & + 2z_1^T P \sum_{i=1}^r h_i(z_t) (A_{i12} s(t) + A_{di12} s(t - \tau)), \end{aligned}$$

where $X(t)^T = [x(t), x(t - \tau)]$, $M(\cdot) = \sum_{i=1}^r h_i(x_t) M_i$,

with $M_i = \begin{bmatrix} G_i + S & B_i^T P \\ P B_i & -S \end{bmatrix}$ and $G_i = A_i^T P + P A_i$.

According to the proof of lemma 4, M is designed so that $M < 0$.

Then, we get the following inequality :

$$\dot{V}(z_t) \leq 2z_1^T P \sum_{i=1}^r h_i(z_t) (A_{i12} s(t) + A_{di12} s(t - \tau)),$$

or

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{V} \leq & 2 \left\| P \sum_{i=1}^r h_i(z_t) A_{i12} \right\| \|z_1(t)\| \|s(z(t))\| \\ & + 2 \left\| P \sum_{i=1}^r h_i(z_t) A_{di12} \right\| \|z_1(t)\| \|s(z(t - \tau))\|. \end{aligned}$$

As $\sum_{i=1}^r h_i(z_t) = 1$, one can find two positives constants δ and η (independent of z_t) such that :

$$\dot{V} \leq \delta \|z_1(t)\| \|s(z(t))\| + \eta \|z_1(t)\| \|s(z(t - \tau))\|.$$

Futhermore, there exists a real $\mu > 0$, such that $\|z_1(t)\| \leq \mu V_1^{\frac{1}{2}}$ and as $V_1 < V$, we obtain :

$$\dot{V} \leq \delta \mu V^{\frac{1}{2}} \|s(z(t))\| + \eta \mu V^{\frac{1}{2}} \|s(z(t - \tau))\|.$$

According to Lemma 3, s is converging toward zero in finite time. Its norm can be bounded by a constant s_o . Then, we can bound the evolution of V by a function W such that :

$$\dot{W} = (\delta + \eta) \mu s_o W^{\frac{1}{2}}.$$

We can show easily that W cannot escape to the infinite in finite time. Then the first sub-system, as the overall system, cannot escape in finite time.

5 The case of a unknown, varying but bounded delay

5.1 Asymptotic stabilization

In this part, for the simplicity of the notations, we note $\tau = \tau(t)$.

We assume that the precise value of the delay is an unknown and continuous function of t , but bounded by τ_{min} and τ_{max} so that $\tau(t) \in [\tau_{min}; \tau_{sup}]$.

Theorem 2 *Let Λ be a stable matrix and a $P > 0$, $P = P^T$ such that $\Lambda^T P + P \Lambda = -I$. Under assumptions (A1 – A5) and if there exists a symmetric positive definite matrix S and a matrix $W \in R^{m \times (n-m)}$ such that*

$$\begin{bmatrix} X_i + X_i^T + S & M_i \\ M_i^T & -S \end{bmatrix} < 0, i \in I_r, \quad (5.1)$$

then the control law

$$\begin{cases} u(t) = -G_2^R(z)^{-1} \left(-\Lambda s + m(z_t) \frac{Ps}{\|Ps\|} \right), \\ m(z_t) = m_1 + \sup_{w \in [\tau_{min}, \tau_{sup}]} (\Psi(z_t(w))) \\ + \sup_{w \in [\tau_{min}, \tau_{sup}]} \|\xi(z_t(w))\|, \\ m_1 > 0, \end{cases} \quad (5.2)$$

makes $x = 0$ asymptotically stable for (3.2) for all delays $\tau > 0$. The sliding surface (3.1) is then defined by $K = WS^{-1}$.

Remark 2 *Similarly to the Krasovskii's approach, the knowledge of the functions h_i is not necessary. Non matching uncertainties can then be involved. The control law considered is then :*

$$\begin{cases} u(t) = -G^R(z)^{-1} \left(-\Lambda s + m(z_t) \frac{Ps}{\|Ps\|} \right), \\ m(z_t) = m_1 + \sup_{w \in [\tau_{min}, \tau_{sup}]} (\Psi(z_t(w))) + \\ \sup_{w \in [\tau_{min}, \tau_{sup}]} (\|\xi_1(z_t(w))\| + m_2(z_t(w))), \\ m_1 > 0, \end{cases} \quad (5.3)$$

with

$$m_2(z_t(w)) = \max_{i=1,r} \left\| \begin{matrix} K(A_{i11}z_1(t) + A_{di11}z_1(t-s)) \\ + A_{i12}z_2(t) + A_{di12}z_2(t-s) \end{matrix} \right\|$$

The proof is achieved in three parts similarly to Krasovskii's case.

Attractivity of the surface

Lemma 5 *Under assumptions (A1 – A5), if the LMIs (5.1) have a solution, the control (5.2) exists and makes the surface $s(z) = 0$ stable and globally attractive in finite time.*

Proof. Consider the functional $V(t) = s^T(z)Ps(z)$. Its derivative along the trajectories of (3.2) with (5.2) is

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{V}(t) &< -s^T(z)s(z) \\ &\quad - 2s^T(z)P(p^R(z) - \xi(z_t) + m(z_t) \frac{Ps}{\|Ps\|}), \\ \dot{V}(t) &< -s(z)^T s(z) - 2m_1 \sqrt{\lambda_{min}(P)} \sqrt{V}, \\ \dot{V}(t) &< -2m_1 \sqrt{\lambda_{min}(P)} \sqrt{V}. \end{aligned}$$

This last inequality is known to prove the finite time convergence of (3.2) towards the surface. ■

Stability of the reduced system

This subsection involves a Lyapunov-Razumikhin approach.

If we suppose that the system reach the sliding surface at time t_0 , then, once on the surface, the equations $s(z) = \dot{s}(z) = 0$ hold and for $t > t_0 + \tau$, the system is driven by equation (3.2).

Lemma 6 *The reduced system (3.2) is asymptotically stable if there exists two symmetric definite positive matrices S, R and a matrix $W \in R^{m \times (n-m)}$ such that LMIs (5.1) are verified.*

Proof. Let us choose the function of Razumikhin as follows:

$$V(z) = z_1^T P z_1, \quad (5.4)$$

where P is a symmetric positive definite matrix $\in R^{(n-m) \times (n-m)}$.

Suppose there exists a class of functional solutions ϕ such that :

$$\|V(\phi(t-s))\| < q \|V(\phi(t))\|, s \in [0, \tau_{max}], \quad (5.5)$$

where $q > 1$. Then, the following inequality holds:

$$\phi(t-s)^T P \phi(t-s) < q \phi(t)^T P \phi(t). \quad (5.6)$$

The reduced system along the solution ϕ_t is driven by the following equation :

$$\dot{\phi} = \sum_{i=1}^r h_i(\phi_t) \left\{ \begin{array}{l} (A_{i11} - A_{i12}K)\phi(t) \\ +(A_{di11} - A_{di12}K)\phi(t-\tau) \end{array} \right\}.$$

Let us denote :

$$A_{TS} = \sum_{i=1}^r h_i(\phi_t)(A_{i11} - A_{i12}K),$$

$$A_{dTS} = \sum_{i=1}^r h_i(\phi_t)(A_{di11} - A_{di12}K).$$

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{V}(\phi(t)) &= \phi(t)^T (A_{TS}^T P + P A_{TS}) \phi(t) \\ &\quad + 2\phi(t)^T P A_{dTS} \phi(t-\tau). \end{aligned}$$

Using the following inequality :

$$\begin{aligned} 2\phi(t)^T P A_{dTS} \phi(t-\tau) &\leq \phi(t)^T P A_{dTS} P^{-1} A_{dTS}^T P \phi(t) \\ &\quad + \phi(t-\tau)^T P \phi(t-\tau), \end{aligned}$$

and the property (5.5), we finally get :

$$\dot{V}(\phi(t)) \leq \phi(t)^T \left(\begin{array}{c} A_{TS}^T P + P A_{TS} \\ + P A_{dTS} P^{-1} A_{dTS}^T P + qP \end{array} \right) \phi(t).$$

Then, if there exists a real $q > 1$ such that :

$$\left[\begin{array}{cc} Z_i^T P + P Z_i + qP & P N_i \\ N_i^T P & -P \end{array} \right] < 0, i \in I_r,$$

for $Z_i = A_{i11} - A_{i12}K$, $N_i = A_{di11} - A_{di12}K$, then the reduced system (3.2) is asymptotically stable.

By pre- and post-multiplying by $\begin{bmatrix} S & 0 \\ 0 & S \end{bmatrix}$, where $S = P^{-1}$ we get :

$$\left[\begin{array}{cc} S Z_i^T + Z_i S + qS & N_i S \\ S N_i^T & -S \end{array} \right] < 0, i \in I_r. \quad (5.7)$$

Finally, with the change of variables $W = KS$, (5.7) is equivalent to :

$$h(q) = \left[\begin{array}{cc} X_i + X_i^T + qS & M_i \\ M_i^T & -S \end{array} \right] < 0, i \in I_r, \quad (5.8)$$

By continuity of the functions $q \mapsto h(q)$, if the LMIs (5.1) are satisfied, then there exists $q > 1$ such that (5.8) is verified. The proof follows. ■

No escape in finite time

The idea of the proof is exactly the same as the Krasovovskii's approach, but relies on a Lyapunov-Razumikhin approach and will not be developed.

6 Example

Let us consider the following model with unknown (bounded) perturbations $\beta(t)$ and $f(t)$:

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{x}(t) &= \begin{bmatrix} -3 & 2 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 + \sin(x_3(t)) & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & (x_2(t))^2 + 1 \end{bmatrix} x(t) \\ &\quad + \begin{bmatrix} 0.5 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0.2 \\ -0.2 & -0.5 & 1 \end{bmatrix} x(t-\tau) \\ &\quad + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} u(t) + \begin{bmatrix} \beta(t)x_1(t) \\ -0.5\beta(t)x_1(t-\tau) \\ f(t) \end{bmatrix}, \end{aligned} \quad (6.1)$$

with $0 \leq \beta(t) \leq 2$, and $f(t) \in [-1, 1]$ is a disturbance function ($f(t) = \cos(100t)$ in the simulations).

The various matrices used for transforming the original system into a polytopic formulation are :

$$\begin{aligned}
A_{i12} &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, A_{di12} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0.2 \end{bmatrix}, \\
A_{1d11} &= A_{3d11} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.5 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \\
A_{2d11} &= A_{4d11} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.5 & 0 \\ -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \\
A_{111} &= \begin{bmatrix} -3 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, A_{211} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \\
A_{311} &= \begin{bmatrix} -3 & 2 \\ 2 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, A_{411} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 2 \\ 2 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.
\end{aligned}$$

The initial function is $x(t) = [1, 1, -1]^T$ for $t \in [-\tau, 0]$.

In the simulation of Figure 1, we assume that the delay is known and constant. Since the system is in regular form, we can apply directly the method proposed in Section 4. The control (4.2) is applied using Theorem 1 : system (6.1) is then proved to be asymptotically stabilized for $\tau \geq 0$. By convex optimization based on the numerical resolution of the constraints (4.1), we find the coefficients of the surface :

$$K = \begin{bmatrix} 0.496 & 3.04 \end{bmatrix}. \quad (6.2)$$

The simulation are obtained using a 5^{th} order integration scheme with a step size of 0.001 and choosing $\Lambda = -1$, $m_1 = 1$, $\tau = 0.8$. The surface is reached in approximatively 1 s. Once on the surface, the reduced system tends towards the equilibrium point in 2.5 s. Finally, the system is stabilized in $\simeq 3$ s in spite of a delay $\tau = 0.8$ s. We note there exists a chattering with an amplitude of 1, which can be reduced by using a smooth approximation of the function $\frac{Ps}{\|Ps\|}$.

Remark 3 *Note that the sliding mode controllers proposed in [Choi, 1999, Shyu & Yan, 1993] cannot stabilize system (6.1) since it is nonlinear. Moreover, the classical state feedback [Dambrine et al., 1995, Niculescu, 1998, Yu & Chu, 1999] cannot reject the perturbation since f is not vanishing. Controllers based on nonlinear models over rings [Moog et al., 2000] may achieve the disturbance rejection but needs to assume that the delay is exactly known and constant which is not the case.*

7 Conclusion

In this paper, the problem of the robust stabilization of nonlinear time delay system has been studied by designing a sliding mode controller. Both constant known delays and unknown varying delays have been investigated. All the required computations required are expressed in term of a convex optimization problem with LMI constraints, allowing for the use of efficient solvers.

A stabilization example of a nonlinear delay system with a constant or varying known delay and non-matching uncertainties emphasized the interest of the proposed method.

8 Appendix A

In this part, we derive sufficient conditions for the system

$$\dot{x}(t) = \sum_{i=1}^r h_i(x_t) (A_i x(t) + B_i x(t - \tau)), \quad (8.1)$$

to be asymptotically stable (see [Blanco & Richard, 2000] for more details).

Theorem 3 *Consider system (8.1). If there exists two symmetric positive definite matrices P and S of $R^{n \times n}$ such that:*

$$\begin{bmatrix} A_i^T P + P A_i + S & B_i^T P \\ P B_i & -S \end{bmatrix} < 0, \quad (8.2)$$

then the equilibrium $x = 0$ of the system (8.1) is globally asymptotically stable for all delays $\tau > 0$.

Proof. Consider the following Lyapunov-Krasovskii functional :

$$V(x_t) = V_1(x_t) + V_2(x_t),$$

$$V_1(x_t) = x(t)^T P x(t),$$

$$V_2(x_t) = \int_{t-\tau}^t x(\theta)^T S x(\theta) d\theta,$$

with $P = P^T, P > 0$ and $S = S^T, S > 0$. We have $\beta_1 \|x(t)\|^2 \leq V(x_t) \leq \beta_2 \|x_t\|_c^2$, with $\beta_1 = \lambda_{\min}(P)$, $\beta_2 = \lambda_{\max}(P) + \tau \lambda_{\max}(S)$. Let us now calculate the derivative of $V(x_t)$ along the trajectory of the system (8.1):

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{V}_2(x_t) &= x(t)^T S x(t) - x(t - \tau)^T S x(t - \tau), \\ \dot{V}_1(x_t) &= \dot{x}(t)^T P x(t) + x(t)^T P \dot{x}(t), \\ &= \begin{cases} x(t)^T \left[\sum_{i=1}^r h_i(x_t) (A_i^T P + P A_i) \right] x(t) \\ + 2x(t - \tau)^T \left[\sum_{i=1}^r h_i(x_t) B_i^T P \right] x(t) \\ + 2x(t)^T \left[\sum_{i=1}^r h_i(x_t) P B_i \right] x(t - \tau). \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Defining $X(t)^T = [x(t), x(t - \tau)]$ leads to $\dot{V}(x_t) = X^T(t) M(\cdot) X(t)$ with

$$\begin{cases} M(\cdot) = \sum_{i=1}^r h_i(x_t) M_i, \\ M_i = \begin{bmatrix} G_i + S & B_i^T P \\ P B_i & -S \end{bmatrix}, \\ G_i = A_i^T P + P A_i. \end{cases} \quad (8.3)$$

A sufficient condition for $\dot{V}(x_t)$ to be negative definite is

$$M(\cdot) < 0. \quad (8.4)$$

Since $h_i(x_t) \geq 0, \forall i \in I_r$ and $\exists i_0 \in I_r : h_{i_0}(x_t) > 0$, (8.4) holds if $M_i < 0, \forall i \in I_r$. Consequently, by virtue of Krasovskii theorem, if there exists P and S such that (8.3) holds, system (8.1) is globally asymptotically stable for all delays $\tau > 0$. ■

9 Appendix B : Generalized regular form

In this section, we consider the following MIMO system of the form :

$$\dot{x} = f(x) + g(x)u(t) + p(x) \quad (9.1)$$

where p is an additive perturbation, f is a sufficiently smooth differential vector field,

$g(x) = (g_1(x) \dots g_m(x))$ is a $n \times m$ matrix where g_i ($i \in \{1..m\}$) are sufficiently smooth vectors fields. In the following, we investigate the conditions under which the system (9.1) can be transformed into the form :

$$\begin{cases} \dot{z}_1 = f_1^R(z_1, z_2) + G^R(z_1, z_2)u + p^R(z), \\ \dot{z}_2 = f_2^R(z_1, z_2), \\ z_1 \in R^d, z_2 \in R^{n-d}. \end{cases} \quad (9.2)$$

The results presented here have been developed in [Lukyanov & Utkin, 1981] in the unperturbed case and in [Perruquetti *et al.*, 1997] for the general case.

9.1 Rank of the input matrix

In [Lukyanov & Utkin, 1981], it is supposed that $g(x)$ is full-rank matrix. When this assumption is not true, it is possible to use a linear static feedback in order to recover Lukyanov's assumption.

Theorem 4 *If $\text{rank}(g(x_0)) = r$ then there exists a static feedback $u = W(x)(v^T, 0, 0, \dots, 0)^T, v \in \mathbb{R}^r$, with v the new input and W a nonsingular in a neighbourhood of x_0 such that*

$$\begin{aligned} g(x)W(x) &= \begin{pmatrix} \overbrace{X \ 0 \ \dots \ 0}^r & \overbrace{0 \ \dots \ 0}^{m-r} \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ X \ \dots \ \dots & X \ 0 \ \dots \ 0 \\ X \ \dots \ \dots & X \ 0 \ \dots \ 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ X \ \dots \ \dots & X \ 0 \ \dots \ 0 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} \overbrace{g'(x)}^r & \overbrace{0}^{m-r} \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

■

If $\text{rank}(g(x_0)) = r < m$, the new system is written as

$$\dot{x} = f(x) + g'(x)v + p(x),$$

where $v \in \mathbb{R}^r$ is the new input and $g'(x)$ is a full rank $n \times r$ matrix.

For simplicity, it is now possible, without loss of generality, to consider that $\text{rank}(g(x_0)) = m$.

The problem is to find a diffeomorphic state space transformation $z = \phi(x)$ changing (9.1) into (9.2).

9.2 Obtention of the generalized regular form in the unperturbed case.

The given results are local, but when assumption *H1*) (see theorem statements) holds everywhere in the state space, then the diffeomorphism is global and so are the results.

Theorem 5 *Let Δ be a distribution such that:*

H1) Δ is nonsingular at x_0 (i.e. of constant dimension $\dim \Delta = d_\Delta \leq n$),

H2) Δ is involutive (i.e. completely integrable):

$$\forall \tau_1 \in \Delta, \forall \tau_2 \in \Delta : [\tau_1, \tau_2] \in \Delta, \quad (9.3)$$

H3) $\text{span} \{g_1(x), \dots, g_m(x)\} \subset \Delta$,

Then there exist a neighbourhood $\mathcal{V}(x_0)$ of x_0 and a local diffeomorphism $z = \phi(x)$ defined on $\mathcal{V}(x_0)$, such that (9.1) is transformed into (9.2) with $d = d_\Delta \leq n$. Moreover, if $d_\Delta < n$, then the conclusion holds for $n \geq d \geq d_\Delta$. ■

Proof (sketch): Under assumptions *H1-H3*, one can find $(n - d_\Delta)$ real valued functions λ_i spanning the annihilator of Δ (Frobenius Theorem), selecting $\phi_{d+i} \triangleq \lambda_i$ and completing the basis leads to the result. ◁

Remark 4 *An algorithm for construction of a such distribution Δ can be found in [Perruquetti et al., 1997].*

9.3 Perturbed case.

Theorem 6 [Perruquetti et al., 1997] *Suppose that:*

H0) $p \in \Delta_G = \text{span} \{ \text{Ad}_{g_i}^k g_j(x) : i \in \{1..m\}, j \in \{1..m\}, k \in \{0..\infty\} \}$;

H'0) Δ_G is nonsingular in x_0 (i.e. of constant dimension $\dim \Delta_G = d_{\Delta_G} \leq n$).

Then, there exist a neighbourhood $\mathcal{V}(x_0)$ of x_0 and a local diffeomorphism $z = \phi(x)$ defined on $\mathcal{V}(x_0)$, such that (9.1) is transformed into (9.2) with $d = d_{\Delta_G}$.

Proof: As $p \in \Delta_G, \forall \omega^* \in \Delta_G^\perp : \langle \omega^*, p \rangle = 0$, and using local diffeomorphism $\phi(x)$ defined in Theorem 15, we obtain the result. ◁

Remark 5 *If $\Delta_G = \text{vect} \{g_1(x), \dots, g_m(x)\}$ is involutive, then assumption *H0*) is the classical “matching condition” [Utkin, 1991].*

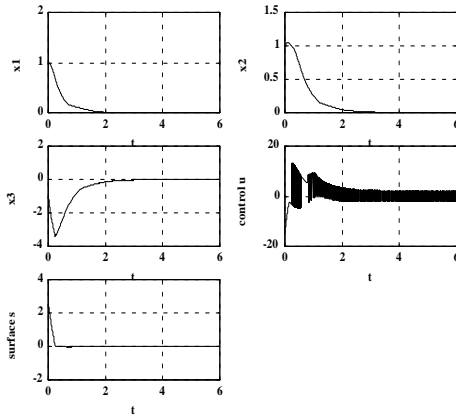


Figure 1: Simulation of (6.1), (4.2) with $m_1 = 1$, $\Lambda = -1$, $\tau = 0.8$

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